

## SOCIETY CHAT.

The temperance meetings being held every Friday evening by the non-partisan W. C. T. U. at the Soldiers' Home are proving a great success. The officers and inmates of the Home contribute much to bring about this result. The meetings are held in the large hall used as a theatre, and music is provided by the brass band connected with the institution. Friday night the hall was crowded to overflowing. Mrs. L. H. Chase presiding and Miss R. C. Levy acting as secretary. A. M. Dewey, High Chief of the Rechabites, made a stirring address in favor of total abstinence, which was well received by the audience. Mrs. Calhoun, a sister of the lamented Custer, was present, and on invitation gave two recitations, which were applauded to the echo. Other entertainment was furnished by the Rev. E. M. Mott, with readings and recitations; the Misses Daughton and Marsden, vocal duet, and selections by the band. At the close of the meeting the old soldiers pressed forward to grasp the hand of Mrs. Calhoun, many of them having known her gallant brother in the Union service. A number of signatures are obtained to the pledge each week.

Mr. and Mrs. William L. Seufferle gave a delightful progressive euchre party last Wednesday evening in honor of Misses Stahley and Coppinger, of Kentucky, at their residence, 900 S Street. Mrs. Helmuth won the ladies' prize and Mr. Brown won the gentlemen's prize. Those present were Miss Stahley, Miss Coppinger, Captain and Mrs. Hersey, Mr. and Mrs. Helmuth, Mr. and Mrs. Benzler, the Misses Eberly, Miss Altmansperger, Miss Annie Helmuth, Mr. Charles Brown, Mr. Grass, Mr. William Deebie, and Mr. Percy Seufferle.

Miss Prettyman, of Baltimore, is the guest of Commodore and Mrs. Badger, 3517 Twentieth street.

Miss May A. Gibbs, of Bridgeton, Me., is the guest of Mrs. T. P. Cleaves, 1819 Tenth street.

Miss Schneider, of K Street, is visiting her sister in Jacksonville, Fla.

Mrs. Cilley will be at home informally the first Tuesday of March.

Miss Maud Tracy, 800 P Street, has returned from her trip North.

Mrs. Senator Squire will receive informally on Thursdays.

The Misses Pendleton are residing at 1232 Nineteenth street.

Mrs. Charles G. Dufin will not be at home on next Tuesday.

Miss Nellie Biddle is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Bigham.

Madame Bolet Peraza will be at home on Friday.

## They Tried the Captain's Temper

Capt. Dinsmore, of the White House force, who has stood the racket of twenty-odd years of service in the mansion, was almost thrown into an attack of nervous prostration on Wednesday by a siege of tourists. He was as near "cross" on this eventful day as mortal man ever was who did not quite cross the line of good nature and indulge in an ill-temper. The Captain's "tale of woe" was as follows: "There were about a thousand of these tourists. They struck this place like a cyclone about 8 o'clock this morning, and, being tax-payers, they all felt that they owned everything about this house. As one man said—or was it a woman? I declare I believe it was a woman—she said she paid taxes, helped to elect the President, and meant to see the White House from the kitchen to the bed-rooms. And then they brought letters of introduction by the hundred, all from special friends of the President, claiming special consideration. They wanted to see him, to see the house, to see Mrs. Harrison, to see the McKee babies, to see Martha. They wanted to know why Mrs. Harrison couldn't be happy in such a mansion, if pork and beans were ever served on Saturday, if the weekly wash was done with regularity on Mondays; if Mrs. Harrison kept Lent religiously. Then, when I refused to answer, wanted to know who I was. Do you wonder that I am threatened with apoplexy or nervous prostration?"

## The Stenographers Organize.

Friday evening Dennis Hall, 923 F Street, presented an animated appearance. Grouped around the platform in the front of the spacious room were numerous palms and ferns, while scattered among the green foliage were vases of choice roses and tulips. The object of all this elaborate decoration was to greet the stenographers of Washington who had assembled for the purpose of organizing a club. Strange to say, with the best material to be found in any city, Washington has never had a stenographer's association, and many of the prominent members had arrived at the conclusion that she should have one. Many interesting addresses were made by those present, a large proportion of whom were ladies. Mr. Willard Tracker was appointed temporary chairman, and addressed the assembly at considerable length. He showed the benefits to be obtained, both of a social and practical nature, and dwelt upon the necessity of a thorough organization among the members as soon as possible. Temporary officers were elected as follows: President, Willard Tracker; First Vice President, Otis B. Goodall; Second Vice President, Mrs. Day; Secretary, S. B. Shibley; Treasurer, O. P. Derby; Executive Committee, Francis Pope, O. P. Derby, Arthur L. Hitchcock, B. Cravath, Miss Oleott, and Mr. Wetmore.

## The Hebrews of New York.

John Swinton in N. Y. Sun. For years I have known many people of the Jewish race in this city. I have mingled with them in their quarters, have visited their synagogues, and but recently addressed a meeting at which over a thousand of them were present. In ancient times the Jews were a "peculiar people," and they are so yet. Their shrewdness and other like traits are often spoken of; but the Jews whom I know cannot be described by a few words of that kind. They are of an inquiring disposition; their minds are open to new ideas; they are lovers of knowledge; they are quick of apprehension; they are genuine in their friendships; they are upholders of freedom; they display at times an exalted enthusiasm; they are mutually helpful, and they deserve their reputation for works of charity. I know many of them who have given up the Mosaic faith, yet possess the desirable traits and virtues here spoken of. I know many who hold the most radical opinions in politics, yet for whom reason is the guide of life. I know many of the Jewish working people, and I feel bound to say that their aspirations are worthy of the race that built Jerusalem. The Jewish element has within a few years become powerful here as well as elsewhere in the United States, and I believe that it is an element that will promote the welfare of the country.

## Consumption Surely Cured.

To the Editor: Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for consumption. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their Express and P. O. Address. Respectfully, T. A. SLOCUM, M. C. 181 Pearl St., N. Y.

—Why do I drink Tannhauser beer? Because it is the best in the market.

## IN MEMORIAM.

BY BURTON T. DOYLE.

The following is the poem written for the memorial services of the National Rifles and recited at the National Theatre by the author last Sunday night:

The divine constitution of the world is good  
And perfect in stupendous plan,  
When nature's labyrinths are truly understood  
By those who worship when they scan  
Creation's wonders and their useful grandeurs  
here

In that sublime economy  
Which harmonizes all in each revolving sphere,  
And forms one vast autonomy.

And the moral constitution of man was good—  
And has by faith an anchor still,  
Where God in Heaven crowns a deathless brotherhood

Of hearth-born souls that do His will;  
But all that were ordained to be so just and good

Have not their missions here achieved  
As perfectly as God designed and willed they should

When Nature's systems were conceived,  
We come on earth, we meet, make friends, and spend our days

Of gladness, sorrow, joy, and pain;  
Our span of life is brief—the grave forever stays  
So near the rocking cradle's gain

That entrance to and exit from existence's stage  
On earth is but a fleeting breath;  
For though we love the joys in which we here engage,  
We soon succumb, and yield to death.

But whether all of life and all of death are here—  
A birth and knell the two extremes;  
Or whether there is life beyond this earthly sphere

In other hopes, and joys, and themes,  
No finite human mind unaided has discerned,  
Nor bold deduction made reply;  
And no departed soul has ever yet returned  
To teach or warn us ere we die.

We know not what it is—we cannot fathom death,  
Nor solve the secret of the grave—  
The problem is profound. We hope that dying breath

Conveys the soul to Him who gave  
That vital spirit-gem to animate us here  
And warm the heart of human breast,  
Until He calls it hence to some eternal sphere  
To die in pain or live in rest.

The weary human soul pursues its journey through  
The desert of this dreary world;  
For sunshine, rain and shadows bound the passing view

Which life has to all men unfurled  
Since breath of it was breathed in human mould  
Of clay

And man became a living thing;  
The path we tread, the life we live, while here we stay,

Will shades and shadows to us bring  
Till solemn retribution comes to us at last  
With curse or crown for every head:  
Our future must forever answer for our past—  
Our spirits live when we are dead.

So we must justly fight our battles here below,  
If we would win a prize above  
Where God's immortals dwell: for He has willed it so,  
And tries to win us there with love.

And still when God decrees that deathless wizard,  
Time,  
His monarch of the scythe and glass,  
Shall summons any soul before His Court Sublime

To serve the sentence He may pass,  
That marshal serves the writ and takes no plea  
in bar,  
But seizes with impartial grasp  
A babe, a child, a youth, a man, a king, or czar  
And holds him in a breakless clasp  
Until His jailer, Death, unlocks the entrance gate

To searchless realms beyond the known  
And leads the dying frame, the body, there to wait  
Until that gate is open thrown;  
Then Dissolution bears the captive spirit through  
The threshold to that other state,  
Where Justice reigns supreme and unbelievers rue

Their scoffings when, alas, too late!  
Where hypocrites, by sin and worldly cant, entail  
An adverse fate, severely just;

But interceding faith and righteousness avail  
Of Him in whom they put their trust,  
Forgiving grace, condoning love, omniscient eye  
To lead and guard, to shield and save  
Their deathless spirits when their earthly bodies die

And turn to ashes in the grave,  
Where speculations fade, and skeptics do not prate  
Against the hope which there consoles  
And worldly vice with Christian faith does not debate

The future of departed souls;  
But Charon hails the cursed and Gabriel greets the blessed

To take them where the record leads  
The waiting to Abaddon's realm, deprived of rest,  
The happy where their Saviour pleads.

And when the order came from that Almighty Crown,  
The Righteous Judge of Heaven's Court,  
That eight of us should lay their earthly burdens down

And make to Him their last report,  
His marshal summoned first our Stone, and then our Page,  
And next our Spencer, then our Moore,  
Then Burkart, Chaffee, Evans, Blois next left that stage  
Where comrades now their loss deplore.

Though they are gone—have made on earth their last deploy  
And run with us their last retreat,  
May God in mercy grant that time will not destroy  
The crowns they won in their defeat.

We know that hallowed sphere to which our hopes ascend  
Entreating at a throne of grace  
Where life immortal lives, where sorrows have an end,  
And grief finds no abiding place;  
And though their bodies here have now returned to dust

In death's republic of the grave,  
That silent realm, the spirit world of God, we trust,  
Received the souls our comrades gave  
When icy hands of death to them wide open whirled

The portal to eternity,  
And showed to them the wonders of another world—  
The world of God's infinity—  
We know they live; but martial strains of drum and life

Awaken not their listless ears;  
Our triumphs and defeats, our pleasure, pain, and strife,  
Amid our sorrows, hopes, and fears,  
No longer now disturb their blissful reign of joys,  
No matter where their spirits roam—

No inharmonious sound from wrangling earth annoys  
Elected souls in Heaven's home.

Our steadfast hope maintains with faith the fond belief  
That there is one Omniscient God  
Who crowns our saved immortal souls with sweet relief

When Death has made their temples sod;  
Our Recollection holds their sacred memories dear

And feels the loss of each of them;  
But Consolation bids us dry the falling tear  
And put our hope and trust in Him  
Who said: "I am the resurrection and the life,  
And he that believeth in Me,  
Though he were dead, yet shall he live," but not in strife,

Forever in eternity.  
Forgive their sins, O God, and rest their souls in peace—  
Receive them at Thy Throne of Grace!  
And when our journeys here upon Thy earth shall cease,  
Let us behold them face to face!

VASSAR AID SOCIETY.

A Meeting Called to Form a Southern Branch.

On Monday afternoon, at 8 o'clock, there will be a meeting of the alumnae and former students of Vassar College at the residence of Mrs. Philip E. Chapin, 1785 Massachusetts avenue, to form a Southern branch of the Vassar Students' Aid Society. The number of poor but able and deserving girls who eagerly desire a college education made the organization of this society almost a necessity. Since its birth in November, 1889, the society and its branches have granted some six scholarships and more are promised in the near future. Dr. Taylor, the president of Vassar College, will address the meeting on Monday. A large attendance is promised, for not only the residents of Washington who claim Vassar for their alma mater, but the visiting alumnae and former students of the college living in the vicinity of the Capital will be present. The committee are Mrs. Frank B. Conger, Mrs. Philip E. Chapin, and Mrs. Brice J. Moses. After the business meeting many of the literary circle have been invited to meet Dr. Taylor, the alumnae, and former students of the college.

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7. A st. se. bet. Sixth and Seventh, 6-room brick, \$4,000.
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9. Fifth st. se., 4-room brick; water; gas; \$1,200.
10. L st. sw., two 6-room bricks, rented for \$10.50 each; price, \$1,500 each.
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